Historic Preservation

QUARTERLY OF THE NATIONAL TRUST
FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

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WHY PRESERVE BEACON HILL?

As a preliminary to sponsoring a bill in the state legislature designed to protect the exterior architectural features of Beacon Hill, Boston, the Beacon Hill Association and the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities held a public forum on January 24 at the Charles Street Meetinghouse, which was attended by a capacity crowd. Edward A. Weeks, Jr., editor of the *Atlantic Monthly* served as moderator in the discussion, "Why Preserve Beacon Hill?" Panel members were John W. Ames, Jr., past president of the Boston Society of Architects; Miss Mary K. Fitzgerald, chairman of the Boston School Committee; Joseph W. Lund, past president of the National Association of Real Estate Boards and chairman of the Boston Citizens Council; and Mrs. Helen Duprey Bullock, historian of the Trust.

Boundaries of the 22-acre area for which an extension of zoning regulations was requested are based on the land bought by the original Mount Vernon proprietors in 1795-6, extending from Beacon St. to the north side of Pinckney, from the State House to River St., but including Beacon St. blocks facing the Public Garden. Architecturally, of the 541 buildings, 75% are Federal or Greek revival, about 5% reproduction, 13% Victorian, and the small remainder "non-conforming 20th century." Although almost entirely residential, with apartments over most shops, the Hill no longer contains only the homes of the wealthy. The majority of large old mansions have been converted into apartments, many of them of only one room.

Louisburg Square, heart of the stronghold of the proper Bostonians has a small private park, and its street is also private. Each year the wood gathered at tree-pruning time is divided into 22 bundles for the 22 traditional proprietors. The annual candle-lit Christmas Eve celebration, with its carolers and bellringers, always culminates in Louisburg Square.

Tourists are drawn to the Hill by the magic of many familiar literary and historic names, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Oliver Wendell Holmes, Louisa May Alcott, and her father, Amos Bronson Alcott, Minnie Maddern Fiske, Jenny Lind and William Dean Howells. Early Unitarians, Transcendentalists, abolitionists and "advanced" thinkers of their day all walked the red brick streets of the Hill.

In preparing their proposed bill John Codman, Secretary of the Association, studied others that the Trust had recorded in its preservation legislation series—Annapolis, Md.; Alexandria and Williamsburg, Va., Georgetown, D. C., Natchez, Miss., New Orleans, La. and Winston-Salem, N. C. They solicited opinions from chambers of commerce, real estate operators, property owners and others asking if the law had worked well, if it was popular, if there were any serious objection to it. Results of the questionnaire (which will be compiled and distributed in the near future) were almost without exception favorable. From Winston-Salem, where the old Moravian area of the city has been restored by community effort for the celebration of its 200th anniversary in 1956, came an illuminating reply. Their bill "has gained the respect of the entire state, increased tourist business, and not been detrimental to anyone. If Boston defeats a law to protect its historic heritage, we outlanders would have the privilege of laughing!"

The fate of the bill is still undetermined—although at the legislative hearing it was necessary to transfer the crowds to the largest auditorium, and support for the measure came from many sources, including a busline which specialized in tours. Elsewhere the movement is gaining support, in New Castle and Dover, Del., and Newport, R. I., to name but a few that are looking to the safeguarding of such valuable economic and cultural assets.

National attention has been focused on the struggle in the news columns of the papers—reflecting two things—an interest in Beacon Hill as a part of an American past still present—and as possible model for other cities having old and historic areas. Pennsylvania, Florida, Michigan, New York, Louisiana and Alabama are among the states that have carried news and editorial comment on the move. Typical is the comment of the Tallahassee (Fla.) *Democrat:*

> " . . . It is too late to preserve other famous areas engulfed by the advance of commerce and industry. Murray Hill in New York, Chicago's Gold Coast, Detroit's Grosse Pointe, San Francisco's Nob Hill, Washington's Connecticut Avenue, Cleveland's Euclid, Atlanta's Peachtree, all have been invaded by hotels and specialty shops. Beacon Hill will now be the exception that will defy the ravages of time and continue to present the same appearance that has made it famous since Colonial times.
>
> "Tallahassee, too, should give careful attention to keeping architecture in the Capitol Center area true to the type of State buildings, alert to preserving and using the worthwhile century-old residences of the downtown area and ever-watchful against attempts to destroy our parks.
>
> "They are the proud landmarks of our city." H.D.B.

Louisburg Square on Beacon Hill with statue of Aristides the Just. *W. J. Wainright.*

PROPOSED PRESERVATION

Annapolis, Md. Directors of Historic Annapolis, Inc. (a Trust member) have agreed to launch a $30,000 fund raising campaign to re-locate the threatened Davis house, birthplace of the revolutionary patriot, Charles Carroll. This same group also announces plans to restore the deteriorated, but once-famous gardens, of Dorsey Place. The owner of the plot of more than one acre has leased the land to them for a period of years at a nominal fee for this purpose and, in cooperation with the Federation of Garden Clubs of Maryland, plans are proceeding for the restoration. When work has progressed sufficiently, the gardens will be opened as part of the series of scheduled tours under the sponsorship of Historic Annapolis.

Lexington, Mo. Master plans for the development of a famous Civil War battlefield site have been proposed to the Missouri Division of Resources and Development. They will include the old Anderson House (1853) a focal point of the battle and later a hospital for Union forces. The house has been open to the public for several years under the direction of Charles R. Phillips (a Trust member) and a program of continuing restoration of house, grounds and furnishings has been under way.

Philadelphia, Pa. Methodists throughout the country have been warned that St. George's Methodist Church (1769), mother church of that denomination in United States is in danger of disintegration. To spare the church in 1921, the Pennsylvania-New Jersey-Delaware River Bridge Commission, which had planned to demolish the structure, changed the location for the overhead span and built retaining walls to protect it. In seeking an urgently-needed $15,000 for immediate repairs the Rev. Arthur W. Cliffe, the pastor of the church which mothered 43 Methodist congregations in Philadelphia and assisted in erecting 176 Methodist churches along the eastern seaboard, emphasized the appeal was "not to keep the walls from falling down, but to keep the doors of a living church open."

Lansing, Mich. Following a conference of leading conservationists, sponsored by the Michigan Department of Economic Development, a group of major recommendations was submitted to the legislature touching on more intelligent use of farm and forest lands, wildlife, mineral deposits, water resources and recreation areas. High on the list of recommendations was one for publicizing important historic sites with highways markers and brochures, acquisition of historic sites now privately owned and reconstruction of Fort Michilimackinac near Mackinaw city.

Galveston, Texas. Efforts are being continued to raise funds to make a down payment of $6,000 to acquire the historic 116-year-old Williams-Tucker Place for the Galveston Historical Foundation. The house was built by Samuel May Williams, a founder of Galveston, who served as secretary and land agent to the Texas settlers, and later was commissioner and loan agent from the Republic of Texas to the U.S., and with his brother bought and sold the five vessels that became the second Texas navy. Philip C. Tucker of Vermont, the next owner, and his family, lived in the house for 95 years. Mrs. Paul Brindley, president of the Foundation, estimates an additional $10,000 will be needed to restore the first floor of the pioneer dwelling.

Charles Carroll House, Main and Conduit Street, Annapolis.
Historic Annapolis, Inc.

Washington, D. C. A modest two-story brick house near the Library of Congress owned by John Philip Sousa, composer and leader of military bands, has been proposed as a memorial to the "March King." The musician was born in a small house on G Street S.E., not far away, and rose to fame as conductor of the U.S. Marine Band. The proposed memorial is the first house acquired by him. The late bandmaster's two daughters, Mrs. Helen Sousa Abert and Miss Jane Priscilla Sousa, hold title to the property as the Sousa Corporation. Groups in various phases of the music industry and bandsmen throughout the nation, propose acquisition of the old house to create a museum and foundation dedicated to stimulating an interest in band music among children.

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THE TRUST SERVICE PROGRAM

During the last two years particularly, a double-barrelled question has frequently been raised about the National Trust. How and where does the National Trust operate on behalf of historic preservation? The questioner usually demands concrete instances.

We believe that in every case we have been able to satisfy the questioner, for the National Trust has in fact a fine record of service in almost every part of the United States. In addition to the properties that have been accepted to administer for public benefit the Trust has already taken some part in literally hundreds of preservation causes, large and small. Tennessee and Texas, for example, today have statewide preservation organizations, and the National Trust helped to bring them into being. An increasing number of communities are considering zoning ordinances designed to protect their old and historic areas because the National Trust printed and distributed over 500 sets of ordinances and then participated in programs designed to inform the public of their value. Boston, Newport, and Dover (Delaware) are recent examples.

Our services are not always so grand or so expansive. Frequently they concern a single house worthy of preservation in an action which has moved slowly over several years. Last month the Governor of Florida thanked us for the part we played in helping to save Kingsley Plantation. Not so long ago the State of New Hampshire acknowledged our role in the saving of the Benning-Wentworth Mansion. Similar testimony is found in the scores of letters we have received from people who perhaps have received much less advice or encouragement, even those to whom we lent, figuratively, only a shoulder to cry on.

Although this program of service is in operation daily, we do not believe that we can, or should, make large claims. Our headquarters staff is still small and we can offer only limited service, through correspondence and direct consultation. Our success today usually depends on the network of friends and members who work daily on state, regional, and local preservation problems. They are the field workers and in them we have faith.

As a result, we have come to believe that the National Trust can be most effective when it encourages, advises, and assists *others* capable of significant accomplishment in this field. Metaphorically, this is to say that we seek to generate a spark or to fan a spark locally generated. This is *how* we serve.

Beyond that it remains simply to be said that it is our intention, with your support, to grow—not for the sake of growing but so that we may be a better clearinghouse and nationwide service organization. Then we can generate and fan more sparks. —F.L.R., JR.

NATIONAL TRUST NOTICES

October 21-22 have been set as the dates for the annual meeting in Nashville, Tenn. Mrs. Allan Van Ness, president of the Association for the Preservation of Tennessee Antiquities, is chairman for local arrangements and details for a full program of professional meetings and entertainment, including tours to historic sites and buildings is being scheduled.

The list of faculty members is being completed, and prospectuses will be sent to all members of the Trust, the New York State Historical Association and others upon application, who are interested in the short course on "Historic House Keeping" the week of September 18 in Cooperstown, N. Y.

Hardinge Scholle has been named acting superintendent of Woodlawn Plantation, Mount Vernon, Va., and Meredith Johnson is serving as his assistant.

Worth Bailey, curatorial consultant at Trust headquarters, has been named as consultant on historical research for the Historic St. Luke's Restoration, a member organization. His services in similar capacities on a special fee basis are available by arrangement.

Mrs. Helen Hamilton Woods, a Trustee of the National Trust, member of the Executive Committee and Chairman of the Woodlawn Plantation Committee was married March 5 to the Hon. W. Randolph Burgess, Undersecretary of the Treasury.

NEW MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation (Va.); William Blount Mansion Association (Tenn.); The National Society of Colonial Dames in the State of New York; Maryland Historical Society.

NEWS OF MEMBERS

The re-erected Bransford-Cecil House (1840) opened this winter as the latest addition to the Valentine Museum in Richmond, Va. Funds to save the fine example of Greek revival architecture were raised by the William Byrd chapter of the A.P.V.A., land was donated by the city and the city school board, and in addition to a major gift from the Old Dominion Foundation, established by Paul Mellon, funds were contributed by 271 individuals and business firms in amounts from $1.00 to $5,000. Marcellus Wright, Jr., A.I.A., (a trust member) was architect of the removal and renovation which preserved the exterior features and adapted the interior to modern needs of research library, school services department and small gallery-auditorium.

The Hon. J. Hardin Peterson of Lakeland, Fla., trustee of the National Trust, and author of the bill in Congress creating the Trust, was awarded the George McAneny Medal in January for his services to the cause of historic preservation.

Dr. Donald A. Shelley has been appointed executive director of the Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village in Dearborn, Mich. He was formerly curator of paintings and sculpture at the New York Historical Society, professor of American Art at Hunter College, and served as curator of the collection of early American primitive art for Col. and Mrs. E. W. Garbisch.

At its February meeting the Albemarle County Historical Society presented an exhibit of early English and American silver. George Barton Cutten, author of *Silversmiths of Virginia*, was the speaker and a loan exhibit of silver made prior to 1850 was displayed. Of the 400 silversmiths of early Virginia, 8 practiced in Charlottesville before 1850.

The *Trumbull*, a revolutionary war sloop scuttled in Lake Champlain to keep it from enemy hands, has been raised and will eventually become part of a Naval Museum to be built on the lake shore below the battlements of Fort Ticonderoga. Raising operations were financed by the Fort Ticonderoga Foundation and were supervised by Admiral H. Kent Hewitt, U.S.N. (ret.).

To assist the National Park Service in restoring and furnishing Independence Hall, Philadelphia, an advisory committee has been named. Among Trust members serving are Mrs. Francis Crowninshield, Charles Nagel, Charles F. Montgomery and Ralph H. Lewis. Herbert E. Kahler, chief of the History Branch, presided at the first meeting. A fund of some $210,000, raised by the General Federation of Women's Clubs, was presented to the Park Service for this project last summer.

Friends of Old Dover held a meeting in the Old Presbyterian Meeting House in January, to discuss the problem of preserving the heart of the historic Delaware city, now jeopardized by the proximity of a large naval air base and expanding industry. Frederick L. Rath, Jr., director, and Mrs. Helen D. Bullock, historian of the National Trust, spoke of programs adopted successfully in other cities, using colored slides to illustrate their progress. Leon de Valinger, state archivist, reports keen local interest in developing such a program for Dover.

The legislature of the state of Louisiana has authorized Wade O. Hampton, Jr., to conduct a survey of state, parish, municipal, colonial and territorial records, to ascertain their location, condition and availability and make recommendations on them for their future preservation. John C. L. Andreassen, former Director of Administration of the Library of Congress, and a member of the Trust, has been named Associate Director of the Louisiana Archives Survey. Dr. Edwin Davis, head of the History Department of Louisiana State University, is chief consultant.

Following a television appearance in November on Warren Hull's "Strike It Rich" program, the building fund for St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Isle of Wight County, Va., the oldest surviving church building in America (*ca* 1638) was enriched by more than $25,000. Those appearing on the panel were Lt. Gov. A. E. S. Stephens, John S. Martin and Miss Elizabeth Jordan.

The Board of Trustees of Woodlawn Public Foundation met on Feb. 25 at the mansion at Mount Vernon, Va. Those attending were J. W. Rixey Smith, President; Elwood Seal, Vice President; Armistead B. Rood; Alvin V. Baird; David E. Finley; Mrs. George L. Harrison; Robert Woods Bliss; Miss Genevieve Hendricks and Aubrey R. Marrs. Mr. Finley presented a report on the National Trust administration of Woodlawn.

DANIEL CHESTER FRENCH STUDIO

Daniel Chester French's Berkshire studio in Stockbridge, Mass., has been presented to the Trustees of Reservations of Massachusetts by his daughter, Mrs. William Penn Cresson. Included in the gift are 20 acres of gardens and unspoiled woodland. Designed by the sculptor's friend, Henry Bacon, who was later architect of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, the studio contains many working models of French's works. Among major works created here were "The Angel of Death Staying the Hand of the Sculptor," in Forest Hills cemetery, Boston; the figure of Alma Mater at the Low Library of Columbia University; the four heroic marble groups representing the four continents at the New York Custom House; the statue of General Oglethorpe, founder of Georgia; figures for the state capitol in Wisconsin and for the National Capitol; and the great seated Lincoln in the Memorial in Washington.

NATIONAL TRUST TOUR APRIL 16

On April 16, six of Washington's distinguished buildings of the Federal period will be open to the public from 1 to 5 P.M. for the benefit of the National Trust. Open for the special tour will be:

Blair House, (1824), administered by the Division of Protocol of the Department of State, which is responsible for the Department's official hospitality.

Decatur House (1817-19) on Lafayette Square, built for Commodore Stephen Decatur, hero of the Barbary wars, by Bejamine H. Latrobe; now owned by Mrs. Truxtun Beale, who has announced her intention of insuring its permanent preservation by bequeathing it to the Trust. The carriage house of the building is operated as a museum by the Naval Historical Foundation (a Trust member), and will also be open on the occasion.

St. John's Church (1815-16) on Lafayette Square, also designed by Benjamin H. Latrobe, with altars by James Renwick. For this tour a special display of documents and objects associated with this early Episcopal church and its distinguished communicants will be held in the Parish House.

Residence and garden of Mrs. Robert Low Bacon, 1801 F Street, N. W., an early Federal building which served as the residence of Chief Justice John Marshall, Congressman Bacon, and others prominent in official circles in the capital.

The Octagon (1798-1800), built by Dr. William Thornton, first architect of the U. S. Capitol, for John Tayloe, and since 1900 headquarters of the American Institute of Architects. Although the house is undergoing major repairs, the famous memorial gardens and the notable library in the old carriage house will be open, and the house itself, if sufficiently safe.

The Arts Club (1805-1808) and garden, 2017 Eye Street, N. W. Residence of James Monroe while he served as Secretary of State and Secretary of War. After his inauguration as President in 1817, he and Mrs. Monroe held a reception here. In addition to the regular exhibits of the Club, Laurence Gouverneur Hoes, president of the James Monroe Memorial Foundation is lending a collection of Monroe family memorabilia including some of Mrs. Monroe's jewels, Monroe's sword and some small portraits. Tea will be served at the Arts Club in the club and garden.

Tickets will be on sale at Trust headquarters, the Truxtun-Decatur Naval Museum, the American Automobile Association, and at the door of each house on the date of the tour at $3.50 each ($2.50 for Trust members). Special notices are being mailed to Trust members in Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia.

Mrs. Stanley F. Reed is chairman of the tour.

DESTRUCTION

New York, N. Y. At a reception held at the University Club where a notable collection of prints and views of early New York were shown, L. Bancel LaFarge, president of the Municipal Art Society, presented members attending the annual meeting of the Society of Architectural Historians with a report on the alarming destruction of Manhattan's architectural landmarks. A survey begun in 1951 to evaluate New York's buildings of architectural distinction, under the chairmanship of Edward Steese, A.I.A., and continued to December of last year, resulted in the nomination of a carefully selected list of various categories of importance. Of more than 250 buildings so named, more than 20 per cent were razed or drastically altered between inception and completion of the listings.

Cincinnati, Ohio. A modern Gothic structure costing $1,500,000 will replace 137-year old Christ Church, long noted as one of the most beautiful in the city. The church is the owner of a magnificent Rubens "Holy Family" which is displayed in the apse during the Christmas season, and in others, hangs in the Art Museum.

Boston, Mass. Langham Hotel, where John L. Sullivan, Sarah Bernhardt and other celebrities once lived, and which spokesmen of the 1860's called "one of the finest ornaments in architecture of which Boston can boast" has been torn down. Lavishly endowed with white marble and fine paintings, this gathering place of Boston's fashionable world declined after the erection of the South End elevated. It ended its days in a neighbor hood of shabby shops and fly-specked hash-houses, condemned as unsafe and will become a parking lot.

Reno, Nev. Nevadans are neglectful and indifferent to their historic monuments according to state park commission chairman, Thomas W. Miller. He cites the loss of the last of the old Pony Express Stations in Ruby Valley, which antedated Nevada's admission to the Union in 1864. It had been recommended by the commission for preservation but last fall a leaser from California used the lumber to build a modern cabin. In Northern Washoe county the large petrified forest area is being looted and vandalized. In Nye county, the famous Ichthyosaur deposit has only been saved by efforts of a caretaker supported by private subscriptions.

Montrose, N. Y. The ten-year battle to save *Boscobel* (1795), the Hudson River Valley mansion on the grounds of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Veteran's hospital is over. The federal government sold the architectural monument for $35.00 and wrecking began at once, despite the last-minute effort led by Bejamin Frazer for a reprieve. The famous facade will be used in a new building on Long Island. Some of the fireplaces and other bits of ornamental woodwork are being sold by the wreckers to local antique dealers and builders.

IN DANGER

Nashville, Tenn. The future of the notable First Presbyterian Church, designed by William Strickland, still remains in doubt. A concerned minority group in the church is attempting a fund-raising campaign to avoid having it razed to make way for a commercial building, and are also addressing an appeal to the synod on the action of the Nashville presbytery to move the church from the downtown location. Protests over threatened destruction of the church have been received from the Society of Architectural Historians, the American Institute of Architects, the National Trust and many individuals throughout the country. At a meeting sponsored by the Association for the Preservation of Tennessee Antiquities in January, Frederick L. Rath, Jr., director of the Trust, urged reconsideration of the move.

Even the Charleston, S. C. *News and Courier* in an editorial addressed to Tennesseans stated "This church is about to be abandoned by the congregation in a move to the suburbs. Its very existence seems to be threatened. With shock as well as sorrow we learn that the building will become 'a sacrifice to commerce.'

"Even New York City, which devours its landmarks before they become 'historic' has left some of its downtown churches, notably Trinity, opposite Wall Street. London, Paris and Rome, which are no mean cities, have managed to preserve old churches in the midst of modern commerce. . . . We do not see how Nashville can afford to let the landmark go. While our voice may not carry across the mountains, we raise it anyway, in a plea to people everywhere to help save part of an older America that belongs to us all."

Springfield, Mass. "Where do we go from here?" is the challenging statement of the treasurer of the Ramapogue Historical Society, which has maintained the Josiah Day House (1754) for half a century. Major repairs are now needed for the old building and annual income from a small endowment, fees paid by visitors and dues of members are insufficient to keep the building open, even without providing for essential major repairs.

Indianapolis, Ind. Two hearings were held in Indiana General Assembly committees in February to protest the bill introduced by Sen. Dorothy Gardner (R.—Ft. Wayne), to abolish the New Harmony Memorial Commission and return the funds raised by special taxes to the state general fund. New Harmony, a small city on the Wabash, was the site of two Utopian experiments in the early nineteenth century, one under a group of German followers of Father Rapp, and the other under the philanthropist and social reformer, Robert Dale Owen.

Those appearing before the committees to oppose the bill were Siegfried Weng, director of the Evansville

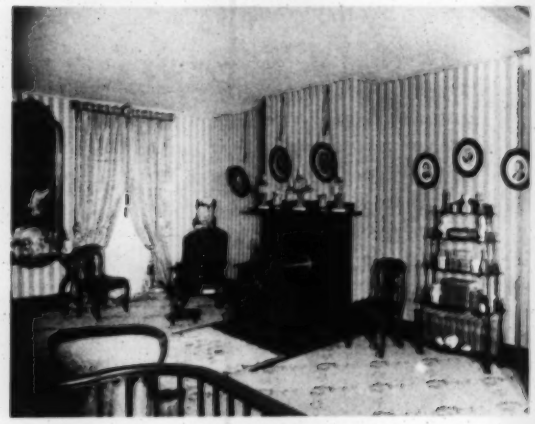
First Presbyterian Church, Nashville, Tenn.
Bill Preston, the *Nashville Tennessean*.

Public Museum; Lawrence Thurman, curator of Old Economy, a Rappite settlement to which Father Rapp's followers returned after leaving Indiana, now administered by the State of Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission; Miss Gayle Thornbrough, of the Indiana Historical Society; Wilbur Peat, director of the Herron Art Museum in Indianapolis; Mrs. Helen Duprey Bullock, historian of the National Trust; and a delegation from New Harmony consisting of Mrs. John Elliott, Mrs. Clifton Couch, Don Blair, Miss Rose Thomson, Fritz Long and Fred Wiley. No one spoke in favor of the bill.

Akron, Ohio. All 2000 members of the Summit County Historical Society are joining with those protesting a move of the City Council to bulldoze down the trees and level off the park in old Perkins Square, set aside by the city's co-founders, Gen. Simon Perkins and Paul Williams. The protesting statement also adds, "The 150 cars that could be parked in Perkins Square won't solve the parking problem."

Frankfort, Ky. Will a city parking lot be laid out on the Old Capitol lawn; will a privately-financed Archives building similar in architecture to the 135-year-old classic revival structure be erected, or will the lawn and park be allowed to remain are the choices confronting the State Property and Building Commission, which controls the historic property.

Front Parlor in Abraham Lincoln's House, Springeld, Ill., as sketched by staff artist for *Leslie's Illustrated Weekly* after Lincoln's election in 1861. *Herbert Georg Studio*



Photograph of Parlor as it looked on the 146th anniversary of Lincoln's birthday. *Illinois Studios.*

ACTIVE PRESERVATION

Springfield, Ill. On February 12, the 146th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birth, 6 second-story rooms of the house where he lived from 1844 to 1861 were opened to the public for the first time. The restoration involved nearly five years of work and the expenditure of some $60,000. It was conducted by the state of Illinois (which received the house from Robert Todd Lincoln in 1887 as a memorial to his father), and the National Society of Colonial Dames in America in Illinois. The lower floors, furnished with original Lincoln House furnishings, and contemporary duplicates of those known to have been in the house, have been open to the public since 1883. The refurnishing of the upper rooms, including reproduction of the damaged portion of the original large figured wallpaper in the Lincoln bedchamber has been under the direction of the historian of the State Division of Parks and Memorials, Richard L. Hagen, and the committee from the Colonial Dames, Mrs. William T. Bacon, Mrs. Robert McCormick Adams and Mrs. William Drake. The historian of the National Trust served as consultant at one of the planning sessions.

New Castle, Del. Supreme Court Justice Daniel F. Wolcott, president of Historic New Castle (a Trust member organization) is leading a movement to restore Delaware's colonial capitol, the old courthouse (*ca.* 1732) in that city. At a meeting held in Dover, Justice Wolcott outlined a program for its restoration. At the present time the building is owned by the state and is used for some city offices, private business and a restaurant, and is in bad repair.

Ligonier, Pa. Gov. John S. Fine spoke at the dedication of restored Fort Ligonier, which has been completed after some years of research and a long campaign by the Fort Ligonier Memorial Foundation to raise funds for it. Major General Richard King Mellon, one of the principal speakers, presented the Foundation with a deed to more than 2 acres of adjoining land for a visitors' parking lot. The fort was originally built in 1758 under the command of Col. James Burd. Attacked by French and Indians on October 12 of that year, it withstood a four-hour assault and drove the enemy to Fort Duquesne. "The fort that never fell" remained an important frontier outpost for many years.

MORVEN

Governor Robert B. Meyner has appointed a committee of 14 New Jersey citizens to make recommendations on the feasibility of restoring the historic Princeton mansion, *Morven*, presented to the state by Governor Walter E. Edge, former governor, for use as an official governor's mansion. Among those named to the group was Kenneth Chorley, president of Colonial Williamsburg, a Trust member. On January 31, the governor recommended that the state legislature re-appropriate the balance of a $65,575 fund provided for the restoration, which was not spent last year because of conflicting estimates on possible costs of restoration.

The house, built by Stockton in 1701, is architecturally distinguished, has six acres of grounds, and is rich in history.

It was owned by many generations of the family, including Richard Stockton, signer of the Declaration of Independence. Conservation Commissioner Joseph E. McLean in his original report opposed restoration of *Morven* on the grounds that the appropriation provided was inadequate and might cost as much as $240,000. In commenting on the item in the spring quarterly, Commissioner McLean stated that he had not proposed building a modern house on another site as quoted in the New Jersey papers.